

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the present amendment and remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 have been rejected.

Claims 3 and 11 have been canceled, without prejudice.

Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 9, 15-17 and 19 have been amended.

Claims 1, 2, 4-10 and 12-19 are pending in this application.

Formal Matters

Claims 4 and 16 have been objected to due to formality problems. These claims have been amended in accordance with the Examiner's directions.

Therefore, applicants request that this objection be withdrawn.

Claims 17 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 17 have been amended to comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention, as requested by the Examiner. In particular, claim 17 has been amended to properly follow from base claim 16 by only reciting that the microphone is coupled to the head unit instead of being included therein.

Therefore, applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Substantive Matters

Claims 1-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bork U.S. Pat. No. 6,255,800 in view of McCarthy et al. U.S. Pat No. 6,693,517. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 16 has been amended to reflect that audio signals between the wireless communication device and the WLAN module in the adapter can be connected through the common I/O port of the phone and through separate audio connections to the phone audio ports (e.g. microphone and headphone port). Support for this can be found in the specification on page 4 line 28 to page 5 line 12.

Bork is limited in its scope to a specific radio telephone audio interface. In contrast, applicants' invention is much more versatile allowing audio connection either through a common

jack or through separate audio cables, for those phones without audio connections in their common I/O jack. Bork does not recognize this audio connection problem and therefore could not envision applicants' universal audio solution.

McCarthy et al. discloses a wireless connection to a vehicular audio system. However, McCarthy et al do not describe how to provide a universal audio connection to any cellular telephone. Therefore, McCarthy et al also do not recognize this audio connection problem solved by applicants' invention and therefore could not envision applicants' solution.

Neither Bork nor McCarthy et al, in combination or alone, suggest or disclose applicants' novel audio connections of amended claim 16 (and data connections of amended claim 19), in relation to a WLAN module adapter.

Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 16 is now in a condition for allowance.

Claim 17-19 are dependent on amended claim 16, and therefore include all of the recitations of claim 16, which are not disclosed or suggested by the references, and are therefore deemed allowable as well for the same reasons. Moreover, claim 19 has been amended to recite separate data connections for the adapter, similar to the separate audio connections of amended claim 16. Support for this can be found in the specification on page 4 line 28 to page 5 line 15.

Independent claim 1 has also been amended, as detailed with respect to claim 16 above, to include separate audio connections, as is recited in claim 3, hereby canceled, and portions of claim 5, removed to claim 1.

Therefore claim 1 is now deemed allowable for the same reasons as amended claim 16.

Claims 1-8 are dependent on amended claim 1, and therefore include all of the recitations of claim 1, which are not disclosed or suggested by the references, and are therefore deemed allowable as well for the same reasons. Moreover, claim 8 has been amended to recite separate data connections for the adapter, similar to claim 19.

Independent claim 9 has also been amended, as detailed with respect to claims 1 and 16 above, to include separate audio connections.

Therefore claim 9 is now deemed allowable for the same reasons as amended claims 1 and 16.

Claims 10-15 are dependent on amended claim 9, and therefore include all of the recitations of claim 9, which are not disclosed or suggested by the references, and are therefore deemed allowable as well for the same reasons. Moreover, claim 15 has been amended to recite separate data connections for the adapter, similar to claims 8 and 19.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection has been overcome.

The other references of record have been reviewed and applicant's invention is deemed patentably distinct and nonobvious over each taken alone or in combination.

For the foregoing reasons, applicants respectfully request that the above rejections be withdrawn.

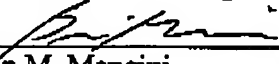
Inasmuch as this amendment distinguishes all of the applicants' claims over the prior art references, for the many reasons indicated above, passing of this case is now believed to be in order. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentability unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless applicant has argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fees necessitated by actions taken herein to Deposit Account 50-2117.

Respectfully submitted,
Seick et al.

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